and our Government will have to consider, seriously and urgently, as to what we should do at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Chitta Basu. We have spent enough time on this. I am now going to the next.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, we have been given to understand that India's role is not merely a role of a mediator but India wants to play a positive role in this matter. Now, in this context, and in view of the increasing involvement of some foreign powers in supplying arms to Sri Lanka, may I know from the hon. Minister what actually is the positive roll that the Government of India is playing, whether the Government has given its reaction to the package proposals which have already been communicated to the Government because the militants and the TULF feel that if the Government of India takes a positive view of the proposals the Sri Lankan Government will be forced to take a particular point of view.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Sir, the Government of India has taken a very positive attitude in this crisis not as a mediator but as what we call someone who gives his good offices for settlement. As you know, there was a deadlock in negotiations between the two parties and there was the outbreak of considerable violence And during this period they insisted that we cannot go ahead with our good offices unless there is a cessation of this violence and there has been some cessation in the violence though it has occurred again and again. And it is also through our help that the proposals which have been fashioned during discussions have been packaged into something which we thought would be a reasonable basis for discussion between the parties concerned. Neither party was very satisfied with it; but they thought it was a basis for negotiation and the Government of India's positive role has been to help formulate this reasonable basis, this package of proposals. We helped in the formulation of these things and it is the basis on which the parties concerned are in negotiations at the moment. I think this is a positive contribution. Its also a positive contribution, that there is some lessening in the reckless violence which has been going on there, though it has not ceased altogether.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*262. [*The Questioner (Shri Santosh Kumar Sahu) was absent. For answer* vide *cols.* infra 31-32.].

Allotment of controlled cloth

*263. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Central Government to enhance the quota of allotment of controlled cloth from 14.136 million sq. metres to 34.136 million sq. metres; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The request, however, could not be acceded to in view of the fact that the Government of Karnataka could not lift the entire quality of controlled cloth allotted to them as per present Scheme.

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the policy of the Government of India in allocating quota to different States and in pursuance of this policy, whether the scheme has been prepared? If so, what are the broad outlines of the scheme prepared under which the Government of Karnataka could not lift the stocks. Secondly what exactly is the requirement of the Government of Karnataka? What is the request they made and whether that request could not be heeded to only because of this reason or was there any other reason involved?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Allotment of quota of controlled cloth is made in following manner Two-thirds is made on the basis of population and one-third is made on the basis of population under poverty line.

As regards quota allotment to the Government of Karnataka, this formula was adopted in their case also. They wanted additional 20 million metres of controlled cloth while they were unable to lift the total quantity allotted to them. Besides it was also seen that an amount of over Rs. 1 crore was outstanding against the Government of Karnataka for payment of supplies made by NCCF of controlled cloth.

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India is aware of the revolutionary scheme introduced by the Government of Karnataka for supply of uniforms to school children and also another scheme of supply and distribution of janata sarees and dhotis? In view of these facts, will not the Government of India take cognizance of these two schemes and enhance the quota of controlled cloth and see that no other reasons come in the way of allocation?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: I do not know what other reasons the hon. Member has in mind. Of course, as far as we are concerned, we have been supplying the necessary requirements of the cloth for the school children uniforms. Now, as regards supply of cloth for dhotis and sarees, they have not lifted the entire quantity in the first instance. Any further supplies can be considered later on. But it has to be made clear that if any State is given extra, it will be at the cost of other States and, therefore, it would not be possible to deprive other States in order to supply extra to any one State.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: In the 1985 Textile Policy, it was envisaged that the entire quantity of controlled cloth would be manufactured by the handloom sector. I would like to know as on today what proportion is being made by the handloom sector and what proportion is still being made by the organised sector.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: The total quantity of controlled cloth is 700 sq. million metters Out of this, 500 million sq. metres has been alloted for this year to the handloom sector and only 200 million sq. metres to the NTC mills.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kumari Sushila Tiria. New Member.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to the total production of controlled cloth in the country and the principle enunciated by the Central Government for distribution of such cloth to the different States?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: I have already mentioned the principle in the reply to the hon. Member who asked the main question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can repeat it.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: The principle is, two-thirds on the basis of the population of the State and one-third on the basis of the population below poverty line. Total production 700 million sq mts.

SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action the Central Government has taken on similar requests from other State Governments to increase the quota of allotment of controlled cloth to their respective States?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Sir, each State has been given controlled cloth and janata cloth on the basis of the formula I mentioned earlier. Wherever any special need is mentioned, that is looked into carefully but at the same time, we have to keep in view that other States are not deprived of their share.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for pointing out that Karnataka is not discriminated against in the matter of allotment of controlled cloth, whereas they have not lifted the allotment made so far. Sir, there is a proverb that even a blind man does not like to be called a blind man. This is not only humiliating to him but it hurts his pride also. Smilarly, a poor man would not like to be called poor because it will hurt his pride. Now, my

friend on the other side has mentioned about some revolutionary scheme launched by the Karnataka Government. In the name of subsidy, calling it cheap cloth, in the name of janata dhoti and saree, they have given a particular colour and border. This not only hurts the pride of the poor but humiliates them permanently by saying "Look; you are poor; you wear this jantas dhoti and saree". How can he Karnataka Government utilise the subsidy for humiliating the poor when the Government of India is interested in lifting them above the poverty line?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is wholly irrelevant. Please sit down.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the National Textile Corporation is running in loss. One of the reasons is that their amount is blocked by Government and private agencies. An amount of Rs. one crore is due from the Karnataka Government. I would like to know whether, if the amount is not paid within the time laid down, interest is charged and if so, what interest will be charged from the Karnataka Government for non-payment of the amount due? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: Sir, I have mentioned that the outstanding is due to the NCCF and not NTC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: I wanted to know whether interest will be charged or not. Losses are because interest is not being taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether interest will be charged on the amount due.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: It is between the State Government and the NCCF who have really supplied the cloth.

Import of 6 APA by STC

*264. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:†
SHRI K. MOHANAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the import and sale of 6 APA, an intermediate for ampicillin, by the State Trading Corporation during the month of March, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the STC was able to recover the difference of amount from the drug units; if not in what manner Government propose to ensure the recovery of the amount from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

6-Amino Penicillanic Acid (6-APA) is a drug intermediate canalised through STC. Its price was revised with effect from 5th March, 1986 from Rs. 1230 per kg. to Rs. 1778 per kg. Ten parties took deliveries of this intermediate after 5th March,, 1986 but paid pre-revised price. A notice was, therefore, issued by STC to them to pay the difference between the pre-revised and revised price. One party has paid the price difference and

*The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mostafa Bin Quasem.